ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention welding torch includes a holdable torch gun having a first connection for hook up to a gas or water supply, and a second connection for hook up to a power supply. The gun has a discharge barrel with an outlet end, and a handle extending downwardly from the discharge barrel. The discharge barrel has a front facing in a same direction as the outlet end of the discharge barrel. The handle has a variable power trigger located thereon such that the trigger is spring loaded away from the handle and may be moved by pressure toward the handle, the trigger having an unsqueezed position and a fully squeezed position and a range of motion area between the unsqueezed position and the fully squeezed position. The handle also has an amperage control mechanism located therein and connected to the second connection. The trigger is moveably connected to the amperage control mechanism such that the unsqueezed position prevents any current to flow to the discharge barrel, the fully squeezed position permits maximum current to flow to the discharge barrel and any squeezed portion therebetween permits a proportionate amount of current to flow to the discharge barrel in proportion to distance between the unsqueezed position and the fully squeezed position. The welding torch amperage control mechanism may be a linear potentiometer or the trigger may include a rack gear functionally connected to a geared rotary potentiometer.